MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND DON KNABE

June 7, 2011

ADOPTION OF CEO'S RECOMMENDATIONS STRENGTHENING THE COUNTY'S ROLE IN GOVERNANCE OF THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

The Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is a critical resource within the County of Los Angeles. LACOE is the nation's largest regional education agency and provides mandatory and discretionary services to approximately two million students within the 80 school districts in the County of Los Angeles. LACOE operates the nation's largest Head Start program, serving 22 delegate agencies and 22,000 children. In addition, LACOE, working in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Probation Department, is responsible for educating approximately 2,000 minors in 3 juvenile halls and 19 camps. LACOE is uniquely interconnected with the services that the County of Los Angeles provides to its residents.

The Board of Supervisors appoints the seven members of the Los Angeles

County Board of Education. Additionally, Article IV, Section 14 of the County Charter

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authorizes the Board of Supervisors to appoint the Los Angeles County Superintendent

of Schools. Upon appointment of the County Superintendent of Schools, the Board of

Supervisors does not retain authority over the County Superintendent of Schools, who

is required to report to the Board of Education.

On March 29, 2011, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive

Officer, in collaboration with County Counsel, to evaluate the current ordinance

pertaining to the appointment of the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools,

including but not limited to the provisions mentioned herein, and report back to the

Board of Supervisors with recommendations on amending the ordinance to establish a

governance structure consistent with contemporary human resources management and

personnel policies.

On May 16, 2011, the Chief Executive Officer filed a Board Memo which

addressed the governance structure of the County Superintendent of Schools and made

three recommendations:

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Accept the Chief Executive Officer's recommendations and add language to

the County Superintendent of Schools Employment Contract that articulates

that the Board of Supervisors shall annually evaluate the Superintendent's

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performance based on approved measurable goals, similar to the Management Appraisal and Performance Plan (MAPP) currently in place to evaluate County department directors and managers;

- 2. Accept the Chief Executive Officer's recommendations and add language to the County Superintendent of Schools Employment Contract that articulates the Board of Supervisors' expectation that the Superintendent will regularly meet with Board of Supervisors. Additionally, add language to the contract that states that the Superintendent of Schools will set regular meetings with the Board Deputies; and
- 3. Accept the Chief Executive Officer's recommendations and add language to the County Superintendent of Schools Employment Contract that articulates that the Superintendent will be responsible for collaborating with the Board of Supervisors, or their designees, and the Board of Education to develop a framework for annually evaluating the instructional program performance of LACOE-operated programs, based on student outcomes, with the evaluation reports submitted annually to the Board of Supervisors.
- 4. Direct the Executive Officer of the Board to transmit a five-signature letter to the County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools expressing the Board of Supervisor's desire to annually evaluate the instructional performance of LACOE-operated programs and designate the

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Chief Executive Office to partner with the Board of Education and the County

Superintendent of Schools to achieve this goal;

5. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to collaborate with County Counsel and the

Department of Human Resources to ensure compliance with the existing

legal framework governing the position of Superintendent of Schools and

consistent with contemporary human resources management and personnel

policies; and

6. Direct the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Board within 30 days

on its progress implementing each recommendation.

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